

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
MINAKO KATO) : Examiner: B. Menberu
Application No.: 10/656,103) : Group Art Unit: 2625
Filed: September 8, 2003) : Confirmation No.: 7041
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD) :
AND IMAGE OUTPUT SYSTEM : September 17, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed foreign documents are also enclosed.

The concise explanations of relevance for the non-English documents are provided by their accompanying English-language abstracts.

For the Examiner's information, European Document No. 0 628 415 corresponds to Japanese Document No. 07-001748, U.S. Patent No. 6,299,285 corresponds to Japanese Document No. 10-226057, and European Document No. 0 627 323 and Canadian Document No. 2,124,036 correspond to Japanese Document No. 06-328733.

Applicant certifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the subject information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior

to the filing of this statement. Specifically, these documents were first cited in a Japanese Office Action dated August 15, 2008, in a corresponding Japanese patent application. A copy of the Office Action that issued on that related application is enclosed. The corresponding English-language documents are cited for the Examiner's convenience.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/

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